

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lars BLANK, *et al.*

Title: **METHOD OF IMPROVING BIOMASS YIELD
OF LACTIC ACID BACTERIAL CULTURES**

Appl. No.: 10/623,578

Filing Date: 7/22/2003

Examiner: Kade Ariani

Art Unit: 1651

Confirmation
Number: 6542

REPLY UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated April 19, 2007, concerning the above-referenced patent application. By virtue of the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time and payment of the prescribed fees, this response is timely filed.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this document.